

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 and 40-43 are pending in this application. Claims 41-43 have been added. Claims 34-39 have been cancelled as a result of a restriction requirement. However, the Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application covering these cancelled claims. Applicants acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in the application. No new matter has been introduced as a result of these amendments.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102


Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 17, and 40 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,168,452 to Christensen be withdrawn in light of the arguments presented below.

Christensen depicts an electron gun for use in a color cathode ray tube. The gun includes a four element tetrode section and a main lens section (see Figures 2-5 and corresponding text of column 4). The four elements of the tetrode section are 1) three cathodes; 2) a first grid (G1) for each of the cathodes, where the first grid has a single aperture aligned to a beam; 3) a second grid (G2) for each of the cathodes where the second grid has a single aperture aligned to a beam; and 4) a third grid (G3) having a single aperture aligned to a beam. If there are three cathodes (three beams), then the grid will have three apertures, i.e., there is a one to one correspondence between a cathode, beam and aperture (see column 4, lines 49-65). In contrast, the claims of the present application include the feature of each of the beam-forming electrodes having a plurality of aperture clusters therein, the aperture clusters having a plurality of apertures within an encompassing shape. Thus, from a single cathode a plurality of beams are produced due to the plurality of apertures in each aperture cluster (see Figure 3 of the present application and the corresponding text).

The Examiner asserts that the plurality of aperture clusters is disclosed by apertures 68, 74, and 92, i.e., each of aperture 68, 74, and 92 is an aperture cluster. Each of apertures 68, 74, and 92 is a single aperture within the grid and corresponds to a single beam from a single cathode (see Figure 5). Nowhere does Christensen disclose an aperture cluster having a plurality of apertures or a plurality of aperture clusters. The Examiner has asserted that the aperture clusters have a plurality of apertures within an encompassing shape and refers broadly to Figures 1-14. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner specify where in Christensen aperture clusters 68, 74, and 92 include a plurality of apertures, as Christensen simply does not include this feature. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 17, and 40 for at least the above stated reasons.

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance based on the foregoing remarks. If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774 6921. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. ALTEP056). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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